

# Hinduism that never existed!

*(Hindu Religion is only  
an Illusion and Imagination)*

***Peter Alexander, B.A., B.L.,  
(D.S.P. - Retd.)***

*(Strong opinions with undeniable Evidences of National  
leaders, Religious Heads, Research Scholars and  
Legal Experts)*



# Hinduism that never existed!

## **Hinduism that is non-existent**

After writing the book ‘Ghar Vapsi’ (the illusion of religious conversion) I engaged in further research regarding the existence of the religion called Hinduism. I found a great number of evidences which point to the fact that there is no religion called Hinduism. One of them was the book *‘the non-existent Hinduism’ (Illaatha Indhu Matham)*, written by A. Iraiyan, a Periyar Peruraiyalar (orator on Periyarism) and published by the Dravida Kazhaga Iyakkam. This is a compilation work of undeniable evidences. I have no anger or bitterness towards the Hindus or the Hindu Dharma. I consider them as my brothers who live along with me in our country.

## **There is no limit to the hostilities**

However, some Hindutva groups attack Christian Churches, preachers and Christian workers with a passion to convert India into a Hindu Nation and to establish Hindutva in the country by crushing the minority religions. Above all, they are also trying to attack Christian schools. They are advising people not to educate their children in Christian schools. There seems to be no limit to their irrationality.

## **Only the Christian schools develop the children’s character**

No other school teaches the children, who are the future citizens of our country, good conduct and the proper way to live. Parents of the children say that only the Christian schools try to develop the children’s character so as to keep their mind and body clean and to protect them from the attacks of the devil who upsets the children’s goal and enslaves them to several kinds of sinful habits such as

intoxicants, smoking, TV, internet, skype, facebook, whatsapp, cinema etc.. It is not the Hindu religion or the Hindus that I object to, but I hate the activities of some of the Hindutva groups which indulge in such evil deeds by their bigotry.

### **Christians are also the sons of this soil**

The tragedy of the situation is that instead of protecting the secular nature (freedom of religions) of this country and guarding the rights of the minority religions so that all people are encouraged to serve this nation without any threat or rejection or uneasiness, and strictly controlling the Hindutva organizations, the Central Government just sends out the notice to the effect that it does not approve of this behavior. They do not realize that this itself is their death knell.

### **This book is for the unity and peace of the nation**

As if to pour oil in a burning fire, the head of Madurai Mutt, Arunagirinatha Gnanasambanda Desika Paramacharya, has demanded that India should be declared as a Hindu nation. In this situation it becomes important to clearly explain the true status of Hinduism for the sake of the spirituality, unity and harmony of our country. Let us hope that the eyes of their understanding will be opened after reading this.

### **Is there something called ‘Hinduism’ (Hindu Religion)? The opinion of the leaders**

Periyar E.V.R., who strongly and fearlessly opposed Brahmanism, caste discrimination, untouchability and varna smirthm, says, *‘consider whether or not we are attributing meaning to some word which has got only a sound and not any specific meaning’*.

### **The name which can not be found in the literature of any language**

When he spoke in Kutralam on 27.8.1927, he challenged saying, *‘Does the term ‘Hindu’ or ‘Hindu religion’ (Hinduism) exist in any of our present or ancient Sangam Tamil grammar or literature or in the Vedas, Shastras, Puranas or history which incorporate*

*the Aryan language and cultural habits? Has it been found to be uttered or used by any of the Siddhas, ascetics, or rishis?’* There has been no reply with valid proof to his challenge until the present time.

Consider what Kanchi Sankaracharyar Chandrashekarendra Saraswati Swamigal, who is renowned as Jagadguru by the Hindus, says regarding this; *‘what we now call as Hinduism is not truly its name. There is no word ‘hindu’ in any of our ancient shastras’* – (Deivathin Kural (Voice of God) – First Part, page 122)

Not only the sage of Kanchi, but also Sringeri Sankaracharyar, when he was speaking about this among the Palakkad devotees, in reply to questions asked by some of them, has said, *‘Hinduism is not a correct name. Hinduism is a later, incorrect appellation’*, Indian Express dated Dec.8, 1981, page 5).

Swami Vivekenandha has also very clearly stated *‘I don’t like to attribute the name ‘Hindu’ (to religion)’*. (Sri Vivekanandar Vijayam, Mahesa Kumara Sarma, page 26)

### **Swami Dharmatheertha’s clear opinion**

Thus the people who are revered as the Jagadgurus of Hinduism have accepted that there is no religion known as Hinduism. Swami Dharma Theertha, who has written an enterprising book *‘The menace of Hindu Imperialism’*, says, *‘The word ‘Hindu’ might lead one to think that the unity is one creed of faith. Hinduism is not a religion’* (The menace of Hindu Imperialism, page 194)

### **The worthy opinion of the national leaders**

Chakravarty Rajagopalachari held the post of the Governor General of India; he was a scholar in Sanskrit; he has written outstanding books such as Chakravarty Thirumagan and Vyasara Virundu in Tamil. In the opening lines of his book in English, ‘Hinduism: Doctrine and Way of Life’ he says, *‘Hinduism is a modern word’*. (Hinduism – Doctrine and the way of life – page 15). Doesn’t it seem remarkable?

The very first Prime Minister of our country, Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru, in his famous book 'Discovery of India', has raised a question '*What is Hinduism?*' and answered it saying, '*The word 'Hindu' does not occur at all in our ancient literature... Hinduism, as a faith, is vague, amorphous, many-sided, all things to all men; it is hardly possible to define it or indeed to say definitely whether it is a religion or not, in the usual sense of the word*' – The Discovery of India – page 108. This kind of certification Hinduism has obtained from Pundit Nehru is a matter to be seriously considered.

### **The tumbling of Pundits**

Kasivazh Shyam Kumar Acharya, a scholar in Sanskrit who was awarded the Aryan titles 'Mahamahobathyaya' and 'Panditharaj', in his book 'Danger to Bharat-freedom', says, '*There is no such word as Hindu, Hind, Hindustan, in any of our Sanskrit dictionaries and the entire Sanskrit Literature up-to-date*' – ('Danger to Bharat Freedom', page 84).

Kavignar Kannadasan, who has written the book, '*Arthamulla Indhu Matham*', starts to boast that he doesn't need to research into the origin of the word 'Hindu', and then goes on to say in the very next sentence that he agrees with the fact that it was introduced more recently and that a section of the Tamils had become Hindus. (Arthamulla Indhu Matham, Part 2, page 50).

### **Anxious questions from News Papers**

During the time when *Har Bilas Sarda*, the sponsor of the Child Marriage Restraint Act, passed the bill for the 'Sarda Act', D.D. Karve had an article published in the *Bombay Chronicle* in which he says that he never received any satisfactory answer from anyone to his question regarding the meaning of the term 'Hindu'.

I think that the presidential speech given on 12.10.1934 in the Karaikudi Hindu matha abhimana sanga vizha by Sri. TSS Rajan, who was close to Gandhiji and Rajaji and was a favorite among the government circle, could have been an answer to that question. He said, '*We don't know who a Hindu is. There is a sadness and*

***disappointment when we think of Hinduism. Is this an ancient belief system which we observe in our nation? Or is Hinduism the written composition in the texts? Which is Hinduism? It doesn't seem to make any sense. No one who calls himself a Hindu seems to understand it. The word Hindu doesn't belong to our country!'***

During the same period, Bashyam Iyengar, in his presidential speech to the Aryan conference in the Manimandapam in Triplicane, Chennai, said, ***'There is no religion known as Hinduism. The name 'Hindu' was given to us by the foreigners'***. (Madras Mail, 10.12.1940). When Sankaracharyar excluded from Hinduism the north Indian Adivasi tribe known as Satbhandis who embraced Hinduism as their own religion,

Thamizh Thendral Thiru Vi Ka reprimanded him saying, ***'The name 'Hindu' only appeared at a later period'*** (Navasakthi 6.5.1931).

So far we have seen, with evidence, the views of the national leaders, Hindu religious leaders, Sanskrit scholars and of several Brahmins who hold themselves high as guardians of Hinduism. Now let us see what the status of 'Hinduism' is in the legal world.

### **Hinduism – the Aryan Religion which can not be legally proved**

Our minds whirl when we see the explanations our country's statutes, the lawsuits and their judgments give regarding Hinduism. We will now see them one by one. We need to analyse anything before we speak about it. That is true wisdom.

### **Strong view of the Legal experts**

Sri. Varadachari, who was a legal expert and the Federal Court Judge during the time of the British, has put in record that ***'It is not easy to define Hinduism'*** (Thamizh Kalai Kalanjiam, vol.4, page 564, 'Jathiyum Sattamum').

KRR Sastry, who was head of the Law College in Jaipur and who wrote the book 'Hindu Jurisprudence', says, ***'At the threshold one finds the term 'Hindu' itself exotic in origin'*** (Hindu Jurisprudence,

page 86). This clearly shows that the religion known as Hinduism was not existent in our sub-continent in the olden days.

### **The worthy opinion of the Chief Justice**

The First Indian Chief Justice of Madras High Court, the renowned PV Rajamannar, who had done an in-depth analysis of all these things, has openly expressed his opinion saying, ***‘When I speak of Hindu religion, I am actually conscious of the vague connotation of that word’***, - (Michael vs Venkateswaran Case – MLJ 239/1952-1). He showed an example for this opinion from the book ***‘The cultural Heritage of India’***, viz. ***‘Hinduism is not a religion in the sense in which we now understand that word. The word is not of Indian origin, nor was it ever used by the Hindus as the name of their religion.’*** – The Cultural Heritage of India, Haridas Bhattacharya, vol. II, 1953, page 106, Madras.

### **The disappointment of Kanchi Periyavar**

Kanchi Periyavar knows very well that in the legal world there is no well defined description of the word ‘Hinduism’. He knows the irrefutable fact that in the day-to-day activities of our country there is no such thing as a Hindu religion. ***‘No Hindu thinks that he is first and foremost a Hindu. He thinks only in terms of his sub sect. e.g. that he is a Vaishnavite, a Saivite, a Smartha or a Saiva Siddhanthin and so on and so forth. Similarly, no religious institution in India is running under the label of Hinduism’*** – (The ideal prophet of our age – Agnihothram Ramanuja Thathachari).

### **The Conspiracy in the Constitution**

Kanchi Chandrasekara Saraswathi Sankaracharyar, who has known very accurately the practicality of this, when the Constitution of India was formed, realized that the words of Section 26, viz. ***‘every religious denomination shall have the right, etc.’*** may cause problems later on if the term ‘Hindu’ is used as religious denomination. Therefore, he acted behind the scenes to get the words changed to ***‘every religious denomination or any section thereof shall have the right, etc.’***. This conspiracy has been described in the



publication which came out as a result of the ‘Shankara Shanmath’ Congress in 1969. What is clear from this is even according to the understanding of Kanchi Sankaracharyar, ***‘the law can’t establish something known as Hinduism as a religion’***.

### **The lack of clarity in the High Courts**

The Indian Supreme Court and some of the State High Courts have confusing views regarding the definition of Hinduism in the section 25 of the constitution. The world renown Mohammad Ghouse, who has got doctoral degree in the legal systems of different countries and their constitutions, has explained, ***‘The Supreme Court and the High Courts of Madhya Pradesh and Kerala have viewed differently the scope of the definition of ‘Hindu’ in Article 25’ - (Secularism, Society and Law in India, by Mohammad Ghouse)***.

Thus the religious leaders, the important people in the government, history professors and legal experts have agreed that there is no religion with the name ‘Hinduism’. In such a case, what was the name of the religion which is falsely named and observed today? There appear to be several answers to this question.

### **Other Names for Hinduism**

#### **Kanchi Periyavar – Vaidiga Matham, Sanatana Dharmam**

The explanation by the Kanchi Periyavar: ***‘Hindu is not our ancient name. We refer to Vaidikam, Sanatana Dharma, but even these are not the names. If we look to the supporting literature on this, there too we find no reference to Hinduism’*** (Deivathin Kural, page 126). After affirming thus, he goes on to give a bland reason, saying, ‘since there was only Hinduism in the ancient days, there was no need for it to have a specific name. That explains why our supporting texts have no reference to it’, thus hoodwinking us (Deivathin Kural, page 130).

The head of Kanchi Mutt has made it clear that the name Vaidikam was used a great number of times to represent Hinduism by the number of references he has made, viz. ‘In very ancient times no name was given to this religion and when a name was

to be given, it was known as Vaidikam and Sanatana dharma. The age old Vaidikam only continues to raise its head', 'An ascetic has no rights in a Yagam (a ritual of sacrifice). Vaidikam dictates that only he observe complete ahimsa (nonviolence) - (Deivathin Kural page 312), 'The name Subramaniyan is sufficient to represent the swami who came to cultivate Vaidikam; Subramaniayan is the one who develops the Vedic dharma which the Brahmins use in order to follow Brahmaniam' (Deivathin Kural page 605), 'Sambanthar overpowered the Jains, only to show that the flourishing of Brahmaniam – Vaidika Dharmam is our sole goal' (Deivathin Kural page 610).

### **Sirungeriyar – Sanatana Dharmam**

Sirungeri Sankaracharyar says, '*Our religion is actually sanatana dharma (eternal dharma). Those who believe in the Vedas are Vedikas*' – (Indian Express dated 8.12.1981).

### **Vivekananda - Vedantha**

Swami Vivekananda too has said, referring to one who follows Hinduism, 'the name '*Vedanthi*' will be suitable or Vaidika will also be correct. That is because we all follow the Vedas as our statutes'- (Vivekananda Vijayam, page 404). It should also be pointed out that he established an association called 'Ramakrishna Mission' in order to spread the Vedantha religion.

Rajaji also has said, '*Vedantha is the best among the numerous names given to the religious faith of the Hindus*' – (Hinduism, page 15)

### **Dharumai Aadheenam – Vedaneri (the way of the Vedas) / Vaidigam (Vedic)**

In the book '*Siddhantha Thelivial*', which was published according to the heart's desire of Dharumai Aadheenam 25th Gurumaha Sannithanam Srilasri Kaiyilai Subramanya Desiya Gnana Sambantha Paramacharya Swamigal, while explaining Sekkizhar's verse '*Vedaneri Thazhaitthonga migu saivatthurai vilanga*',

Mahavidvan Arunaivadivelu says, *‘the term vaidigam with the meaning of vedaneri’*, which agrees with this opinion.

### **Nehru’s Estimation – Arya Dharma**

Nehru has explained this very well. *‘The old inclusive term for religion in India was Arya Dharma... the expression Vedic Dharma was also used in ancient times. Sanatana Dharma meaning the ancient religion could be applied to any of the ancient Indian faiths but the expression has been more or less monopolized today by some orthodox sections.’* – (Discovery of India, page 63)

Let us look at a few more evidences for the usage of the term ‘Aryan’. Nirveda Nanda Swami decisively says, *‘In very ancient days Hinduism was known as Arya Dharma’* – (Hinduism at a glance)

Early this century, Villavarampal Kuppuswamy Iyyar has even written and published the book, *‘Arya Matha Siddhantha Sankiramam’*, with this concept.

About half a century ago, the Chennai Alliance Company had not only published a book, *‘Arya Matha Ubhakyanam’*, but they also advertised in the Tamil newspapers saying, *‘Arya Matha Vakkianam heads all our other publications’*

A.P. Karmarkar, the north Indian Professor of Indology, in his book *‘The Religions of India’*, referred to the Hindu religion as the *Aryan Religion*. (The development of the Aryan and other religions on the soil of India – The Religions of India)

### **Hinduism is nothing but Brahmanism**

The term ‘Brahmanism’ is used to refer to the Vedic Hindu religion or the Vaidiga Matham, referring to the Vedics or the high castes. Let us look into that also. The history Professor K.A. Neelakanda Sastry refers to this in his books as, ‘Brahmanism also flourished and most of the Satavahana rulers were devoted to it.’ – (A history of small India), and, ‘Despite patronage of some of the kings, Buddhism evidently could not make much headway against

Brahmanism.’ (Comparative History of India, page 656). He has referred to the term ‘Brahmanism’ in several places in his history books.

### **Opposition to Brahmanism**

The Frenchman Abbe J. A. Dubois says, *‘Brahmanism underwent a hard struggle before it succeeded in establishing its dominion in India owing to the opposition offered to it by the Jains’* – (Hindu manners, customs and ceremonies). The Englishman Sir Edward Blunt has written, *‘Both the Brahmin and the Brahminical religion became thoroughly unpopular and the result was that other religions arose of which two were definite revolts against Brahminism’*. – (The caste system of Northern India)

Swami Vivekananda, in his Chicago speech, has revealed that *‘Brahmanism has incurred losses in certain aspects’* – (Sri Vivekananda Vijayam, page 82). This too is to be considered. Therefore, no one can dismiss the words of the scholar, Dr. Ambedkar, *‘It appears that the Hindu religious Samvad has carried on for more than 1500 years. Finally, the backward, hostile Brahmanism won’*. (Ambedkar’s advice, “Dravida Nadu”, 15.10.44).

Shall we see how this religion, which was known by so many names in the ancient past, has changed its shape in the medieval times?

### **The baseless Hinduism divided into six**

Hinduism, which was known by names such as the Vedic religion (or the Vaidika matham), Sanatana matham, Arya matham, lost all these names and was separated into several divisions at a later period. ‘Mahakavi Bharathiar has said that ‘Hinduism which is the Vaidika matham, has now got several cracks in it.’ (Bharathi Books – essays, collection 3, page 169)

Ainthiram (with Indra as the head)

Agneyam (with fire as deity)

Ganapathiam (with Ganapathy as god)

Saivam (with Siva as the lord)

Vaishnavam (with Vishnu as the head)  
Saktham (with Parashakthi as mother)

These are the six religions which Bharathi indicates.

### **The evidences which contradict this**

However, the writings concerning Aadi Shankara show that during Aadishankaracharya's time there was some variation in the above list in the tradition of our country. Ganapathiam, Goumaram (with Kumaran as god), Vaishnavam, Sangram (with Sun as the foremost deity), Saktham and Saivam, and they were known as 'Shanmatham'. This term is in use even today.

The book 'Siva Gnanapotham', published in 1906, mentions that, *'in this continent of Bharat, the original religions such as Saruvagam, Buddhism, Jainism, Mayavatham, Vaishnavam and Saivam which have been here since olden days, all acquire the names as Hindu religions'*.

The above-mentioned three lists have different names. Though they may create confusion due to their differences, there is one certainty. *'There were several religions in the medieval time, but they reveal the truth that there was not a single religion known as Hinduism'*.

*'If one looks into the differences between Saiva Siddhantham, Sumartha Vedantham and Vaishnavam, they would be more numerous than the differences between Christianity and them'*, says the analysis of the legal expert and Tamil scholar K. Subramanya Pillai. The analysis also says that Saivam and Vaishnavam thrived as complete and independent religions.

### **A fake word called Hinduism**

Kanchi Sankarachar, without attempting to give the history of this fake term Hinduism, says, *'The term Hinduism is really a name somebody has presented us with. Our forefathers were once inhabitants of the region watered by the River Sindhus which, to some foreigners who came into contact with us, was known*

as *Indus*’- (The Religions of the world, Sankara and Shanmatha conference souvenir), as a result of his analysis into basic reasons.

### **Hindu is the name given by the Persians**

Vivekananda also gives the same explanation. He says, *‘the ancient Persians corrupted the Sanskrit term ‘Sindhu’ into ‘Hindu’ and called all those who lived across the Sindh river as Hindus. This is how we got this name’*.

M.K. Kelunni Nayar, who has got the new name Swami Sivananda Saraswathi, confirms that, *‘Many accept the name ‘Hindu’ even today without realizing that it is a general term. The names Hindu or India has not appeared from any language of our country. It was given to us by foreigners. Persians are the ones who gave it to us’* - (Gnana Suriyan, page 7).

### **Further evidence that the Persians gave it**

At the end of last year, in the book ‘Mathaviruksham’ published by Soma Narasimhulu Naidu, it says *‘in those days the river Sindhu was also known as the River Hindu and so the Persians gave the name Hindus to those Aryans who settled on the banks of the river’*; in the anthology known as the New Book of Knowledge it says, *‘The word Hindu is of Persian origin and refers to people who lived east of the Indus river’*; in the American encyclopedia it says, *‘the word ‘Hindu’ stems from the ancient Persian word Hindustan meaning ‘Land of the river’ of India. The word Hindu literally means an inhabitant of India, but in the English language it refers to a follower of Hinduism’* – (Vol.10, page 261). This clearly shows that the name ‘Hindu’ was given by the Persians.

M.V. Sundaram, the author of the book *‘Indiya Aadikkamum Desa Bhaktha Nathigamum’*, says, *‘The ideology followed by the Vedics in India where the Indus valley civilization had flourished, was given the name ‘Hinduism’ by the Arabians according to history’*.

### **Mahatma Gandhi too did not refute this**

Mahatma Gandhi says, *‘the term ‘Hindu’ is not found in the Vedas. When the great Alexander invaded India, he referred to the people living in the east of Sindh as Hindus’*.

K. Subramaniya Pillai also says, *‘the term Hinduism is understood to be the religion of the people of India. The Persian term ‘Hindu’ which referred to the people living along the banks of river Sindh was used also by the Greeks. The people from the west, following that tradition, used it to refer to all the people living in this country, by calling them Hindus and the country as India’*, in his ‘Hindu Samaya Varalatu Surukkam’ (the concise history of Hinduism).

All the above are only a few examples of the evidence. There are hundreds of such evidences. Therefore, from what we have seen so far, *it is clear that there has not been a religion known as Hinduism in this country.*

### **The Octopus Deception of the Aryans**

A long time ago, Thanthai Periyar had very accurately assessed the truth that there was no religion known as Hinduism, and spoke about it very clearly and without any kind of doubt. That is why when he met Mahatma Gandhi once in Bangalore he could argue with him about this great deception.

Periyar: Hinduism should perish.

Gandhi: Why?

Periyar: There is no religion known as Hinduism.

Gandhi: But it does exist!

Periyar: The Brahmins teach people to think that it exists.

Gandhi: What you say is all correct. That is, there is no religion known as Hinduism. It is true. I agree with you. However, because Hinduism is a non-existent religion, anyone can become a great person in the name of that religion and say anything. We can also

use the religion to bring in a number of social reforms according to the needs of the people during this period of the Hindus.

Periyar: Please forgive me. That is an impossibility.

Through the above interesting conversation Periyar made Gandhi to accept the fact that *Hinduism is a non-existing religion*. Yet, how was it possible that Hinduism took hold of this nation by casting out all existing truths and is reigning a usurped rule?

### **The truth that the sage of Kanchi let slip**

It will require hundreds of pages if we have to explain the results of the analysis in detail. It is not needed at present. It is sufficient for this treatise to consider the deceptive drama displayed by the Aryans in a concise form. If you allow a thief to talk sufficiently, all the hidden truth will automatically come out of him. Similarly, look at the truth which the sage of Kanchi revealed without realizing that he was doing so. He says, *‘We have been rescued by the name ‘Hindus’ which the white man gave us. The name he gave us has now saved us’* – (Deivathin Kural, Part 1, page 267).

As we read it more and more, numerous truths and desperateness which are lying at the bottom of the hearts of several people are revealed. How were we rescued? How were we saved? We can imagine it. We can also explain it with proof. Kanchi Periyar himself has given an explanation to save us the trouble.

### **Several disagreements among the Hindus**

‘If he has not given the name ‘Hindu’ .... , each area will have several divisions and have separate religions such as Saivites, Vaishnavites, Sakthars, Muruga devotees, those who worship the boundary goddess etc.. Do Saivites and Vaishnavites have the same deity? Not at all! Whatever the ordinary Vaishnavites may do today, their Acharya Purushas will not even lie down with their head pointing towards the Shiva temple. Mahavishnu is their only god. Shiva is not a god at all in their opinion. The fanatics among the Saivites would say ‘Vishnu is not at all a god. Only Shiva is



the almighty god. Vishnu is only his devotee. That is all'. How can anyone say that these two are of the same religion?' – (Deivathin Kural, part 1, page 266, 267).

The observant words of E.V.R. Periyar, ***'It is impossible to relate the number of differences and the enmity between Vaishnavam and Shaivism and their gods. The massacre of lives has been innumerable'***, could not be repudiated by Shankaracharyar, and so he accepted the statement. This shows how irrefutable the truth is, that these two religions varied from each other and contradicted each other.

Thus, embracing all the religions which appeared among people at different stages, and which were in stark contrast to each other, assimilating and absorbing them and deceptively establishing their position, the Aryans received this distinct name 'Hindu' which was a great asset to their ploy. The inner meaning of the phrases ***'we survived, we were saved'*** used by the Kanchi Periyaver in his delight, is nothing but, ***'we Brahmins have escaped, it saved us Brahmins'***.

### **Hindu legislation was passed**

From a very early period, the Aryans used their cunning to endear themselves to the then kings and established their positions and fulfilled their evil intentions. In the same way they were successful in getting the English rulers of India to agree to their demand of creating a 'Hindu legislation' in the name of 'Hindu', and clasped every religion into their Octopus grip, except those belonging to Persian, Christian and Islamic religions.

The assurance and pledge given by Queen Victoria in the foreword of the Hindu Law to the crafty, northern people is available to us in the foreword. ***In the law which is known as the 'Hindu Law' there is no definition to say who is a Hindu. 'Whoever is not a Christian, whoever is not a Muslim and whoever is not a Parsee, he is a Hindu'***. From this, it is very clear that there is no straight forward definition of a Hindu, but an indirect definition without any basis as to who a Hindu is.

### **Those who oppose Hindus are also Hindus**

On the one side, Jainism which harshly opposes the Vedic religion, and was itself opposed and rejected with hatred by the Shaivism, has been accepted as belonging to Hinduism according to the Hindu law. Also those who still don't accept the complete authority of the Vedas, such as the Thanthris, Karnataka Lingayats, Kashmiri Shaivites, Maharashtra Mahanubhavs, Bengal Sahajiyas, Punjab Namdharis, Devasamajis, and Nirangaries, all are Hindus. On the other side, the opinion of Gandhiji that, '***A man may not believe in God and still can call himself a Hindu***', -(Nehru's Discovery of India, page 75). On another side, the RSS organization's logo which says, 'We should not think that the term Hindu only portrays the Hindu community. Christians and Muslims and all other groups are also Hindus' – (Hamari Ektha, 15.4.79).

### **A religion filled with confusion and complications**

Thanthai Periyar writes about such a dogma filled with confusion, conflicts, craftiness and deception, as, 'Hinduism is not a name for a specific set of tenets. The culture of Aryans, their rituals, the deities of their worship, their literary stance, Shastras and Puranas have been made to be the religion of Hindus and their religious principles. In order to stop the opposing forces and to allow no reason for the non-Aryans to revolt against it, they say that everything is Hinduism, everyone is a Hindu, this is Hinduism and that is Hinduism, Hinduism incorporates all principles, a Hindu can live as he wants to, Hinduism is a compilation of several religions, all the opinions of the great people who appeared here at different stages all belong to Hinduism, Hinduism contains the concept of every other religion present, any type of person can be a Hindu, the ideas of Buddhists, Jains, and other religions came from Hinduism and therefore is suitable to Hinduism. Therefore, now we are in a position not to be able to say what is Hinduism and what is not Hinduism.' Every word of this definition is indeed suitable for Hinduism. In the Hindu Law, a sub-heading 'Hindu is an elastic term' has been given with due

explanation to it. One is in a predicament whether to laugh or cry or get irritated at such a presentation.

Keeping this kind of craftiness and wickedness in mind, Dr. Ambedkar had lashed out saying, *‘Hindu society is a fictitious one’*, in his book *‘Gandhi and Gandhiyam’*. The Tamils too have fallen into this fictitious quagmire.

### **Who has established Hinduism? What is its belief?**

Hinduism neither came into existence like the other religions such as Buddhism, Jainism, Christianity, or Islam. Nor was it established by anyone. Yet, the Aryans have won a great victory by imparting this fake name onto the Tamils, the Dravidians.

### **The word Hindu is not found anywhere, in anything or in any language**

Among the available literature from the ancient times, such as Irayanar Kalavial, Tholkaappiam, Patthupattu, Ettuthogai, Padhinenkeezhkanakku, Aimerum Kappiungal, there has been no mention of a religion known as Hinduism. If we search around in the later time literature such as Siru Kappiungal, Andaadigal, Manimaalaigal, Thevara Thiruvasagangal, Nalayira Divyaprabantham, Kshetra Venba, Thiruthonder Thogai, Kalambangal, Bharatha Venba, Paranigal, Kambaramayanam, Periya Puranam, Villibharatham, Ulaakkal, Pillai Thamizhgal, Kuravanji, Arichandra – Kanda – Chidambara Puranangal, Thiruvisaippa, Kovaigal, Paavaigal, Siddhantha Noolgal, Nalavenba, Naidatham, Thiruppugazh, Thanippaadalgai, none of these say about a religion known as Hinduism at all. With all these things in mind, the Periyar of Erode said, *‘Affix it in your mind as a primary point that the word ‘Hindu’ is not a Tamil word’*.

### **The Tamils were made into Hindus without their accord**

Did the Tamils become Hindus? Or, were they made to become Hindus? The answer to that is that they were made to become Hindus. We sometime say that people became Muslims. By that we mean that they have seriously thought about and understood that

they were going to embrace another religion and then only accepted the religion of Islam. Similarly, when we consider whether our Tamil people understood everything about Hinduism, or wanted to become specifically Hindus, and then chose it, then we find that it is not true. They have come to the situation of being known as Hindus without really knowing or understanding anything, and not even wishing to become Hindus.

### **Who established Hinduism?**

What is the meaning of Hindu? What are the beliefs of Hinduism? Except for Hinduism, every other religion has a specific name attached to it, viz. religion of Christ, religion of Mohammed, religion of Buddha, religion of Jain, etc.. If we look at it this way, to which fellow does Hinduism belong? Whose beliefs does this bear? Kanchi Periyavar could not give an answer to Periyar who raised such questions to him. He has handled it by saying, *‘Except for our religion, every other religion was established in a great man’s name. Buddhism was established by Gautama Buddha. Jainism was established by Mahavir Jain. Christianity was established by Jesus Christ. When we say a great man established it, it means that such a religion was not present earlier to him. Our religion existed before all these religions. It was spread all over the world. As there was no religion before it, there was no need to give it a name. Alright, let this be an ancient religion. But who established it in the ancient time? The study into this kind of research has never found anyone at all who had established this religion.*

### **The Vedic Mantras which appeared on the sky**

*‘Shall we attribute it to Vyasa who composed the Brahma Sutra? Shall we attribute it to Krishna who recited the Gita? But even these refer to the Vedas which existed before them. If we then say that the Rishis who recited the Vedic mantras as the ones who established it, they too say that they didn’t compose the Vedas.... They say that these mantras appeared in the sky in front of them.... These Vedas were the breath of the almighty who takes the form*

*of the skies, and were not made by man but by a non-human.’ – (Deivathin Kural, pages 128-129)*

### **The slyness with which the Dravidians were made Sutras**

How then did the Tamils come to a situation to be called Hindus? Already the Aryans had recorded in the Sanskrit texts, the Dravidians, of whom the Tamils were a part, as belonging to the fourth division, Sutra Varna, among the four divisions, according to the Brahmaniya-Sanatana Vedic principles. They had imprinted it in the Manu dharma Shastra itself saying, *‘all the Kshatriyas who ruled over the Dravidian provinces have become Sutras’*. (Manu Chapter 10: 43-44). Similarly, in the Mahabharata, they added the Dravidians to the fourth division of Varna as those who had fallen from the Kshatriyas’ position.

### **The Hindu Law created by foreigners**

Those who came to the Indian subcontinent from different parts of Europe didn’t have sufficient knowledge about the crores of Indians, their different cultures and their way of life brought in by different people who had come into this country earlier. So they called the whole of Indians as Hindus without a good understanding of the broad spectrum of the spiritual life of the Indians. As a result of this, when at first only a part of the country was under the authority of the East Indian Company and then the whole of it came under the rule of queen Victoria, they agreed to give religious freedom to the people of this country in the form of a so called Personal law. Those who followed the Islamic way of life were given the Muslim Law and the rest of the people were given the Hindu Law.

Even though in the beginning this Hindu Law targeted northern Aryan people, the ability of the Aryan Brahmins to give explanations and decisions to the worship patterns meant that due to their vileness the ruling of this law extended slowly to the south, to the Dravidians, to Tamil Nadu, and affected those who lived here.

During the time of Sathanar, the author of Manimegalai, the religious-wise census had recorded worship groups such as,

(1) Alavaivaathi, (2) Saivavaathi, (3) Bramhavaathi, (4) Vainavavaathi, (5) Bedavaathi, (6) Aasivagavaathi, (7) Nigandavaathi, (8) Sangiavaathi, (9) Vaishegavaathi, and (10) Boothavaathi. All these and those who descended from them were all combined under the common name ‘Hindus’ by the Europeans.

Several parts of Tamil Nadu came under the rule of the British at different time periods. In the 1772, according to the so called ‘Regulating Act’, Warren Hastings was appointed as Governor General of all the provinces which the British had under their rule. During his time, the Koran was used for the Muslims and the Hindu Vedas or Dharma Shastras for the Hindus, as a measure of the law, and according to the sections 27 and 23, the Muslim Moulvis and the Hindu Pundits were appointed to be always present in every court of law (Notes on Indian history, page 132). Thus, laws were completely formed on the basis of the Vedashastras and followed. This is how the people of Tamil Nadu were considered to be Hindus and the laws written in the northern language books were imposed on them to follow. The legal expert Mohanlal Dayal Manek confirms this in his book, ‘The Handbook of Hindu Law’, page 3.

In the 19th century, the Sanskrit Law was imposed throughout the South India by the Aryans who held high positions in different government departments, and the Aryans who were lawyers at that time (Sanskrit Law – John D. Mayne – Published in India, 1878).

### **The misfortune of the opponents of Hindu Vedas who had to submit to the law**

Whether it is the descendants of Gaundi Adigal who showed very strong allegiance to Jainism and detested and spat on any other religion, or the followers of Gnanasambanthar, who went to the extreme to show his lustful depravity to rape the Jain girls, or those who follow the footsteps of Thirumangai Aazhwar who, in order to exalt Vaishnavism, didn’t hesitate to humiliate Shiva the god of the Saivites, by calling him a beggar, all these people were designated as the Hindus, first by the Muslims, and then by the Europeans. Meanwhile the Aryans, who hoped that the name Hindu would be

a great asset to them, managed to hold on to that name firmly. This is the reason why the Kanchi Shankaracharyar comforted himself saying that ‘we escaped because the white man gave us the common name Hindus’

### **There has never been a religion known as Hinduism**

But how long can one continue to deceive the people? Until the end of 19th century the Tamils, who had not cared who ruled over them (whether it is Rama or Ravana), didn’t have any motivation to do any kind of research into the term Hindu. Only after the beginning of the 20th century, the systematic analysis of Thanthai Periyar and of the scholastic intellectuals such as M.S. Poornalingam Pillai and K. Subramaniya Pillai, started to bring the problem into light. The researcher M.S. Poornalingam said, ‘Hinduism can’t exist in Tamil Nadu just as snakes can’t exist in an island filled with ice (Senthamizh Selvi, March, 1928), and K. Subramaniya Pillai said, ‘The very first thing one should affix in one’s mind is that there is no religion known as Hinduism’, (the Concise history of Hinduism).

### **Hinduism is a created imagination**

Thanthai Periyar said, *‘Hinduism is a nonexistent religion in its entirety. Due to the dominance of the Brahmins, in order to show that the Brahmins are of a higher caste, several religions, several deities, several stories created for these, puranas, idihaasas, and activities have been created. Not only there is not a single truth in their occurrences or their concepts, but they are also all imaginary, idiotic, with highly contradictory and opposing incidents. They, however, suit the selfishness and the self-importance of the Brahmins. They have been designed to be demeaning and troublesome to the non-Brahmins among the Hindus. The word Hindu is not a Tamil word. They have made us carry burden that is not even real’*, thus revealing a historical truth, a conspiracy.

### **Where is the Thamizh religion of the Tamils?**

When Maniyan, who was the assistant editor of the magazine Ananda Vikatan, went to Mauritius, off the southeast coast of Africa,

he met a Tamil young man whose family had settled in that country more than 200 years ago who asked Maniyan, ‘Is the Thamizh religion being preserved well in Tamil Nadu?’, Maniyan answered him, ‘Thamizh religion?.. Oh, you mean Hinduism? Yes, that is thriving very well’. The young man then said, ‘I am not asking about Hinduism. I am asking about the Thamizh religion which was created by Valluvar’, and made Maniyan feel embarrassed. Maniyan has mentioned this in his book *‘The Countries I visited in Africa’*, which establishes the opinion of the scholars that *‘Hinduism has no connection to the Tamils’*. Hinduism is not only unrelated to the Tamils, but it also has no connection to the Indians as a whole.

### **Only time will tell**

In the language of the Persians the term ‘Hindu’ means thief. In Sanskrit it means poison. We really don’t need the poison that demeans and destroys the Dravidian culture, civilization, customs and life style. We certainly don’t want to drag in something that doesn’t belong to us and tries to destroy the unity, brotherhood, spirituality and freedom of religion of this country. Whichever government or organization supports this type of division will surely be destroyed in the end. Don’t reject anyone who belongs to a minority group. That isn’t good for the integrity of the nation. Will those who govern, those who care for the good of the nation, consider these things? Will they act upon these things? Will they control the religious extremists? Only time will tell.

Vande Mataram!